D-5272

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CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE

File No. D. 5272

S. 1, Special Branch

REPORT

Date February 29, 1940.

Subject S.P. Balanovsky.

Made by D.S. Pavloff Forwarded by D. L. Crawford

Sergey Petrovitch BALANOVSKY, alias Belanovsky, alias Belanorsky, alias Boolanovsky, alias "Serejka Poliak", Russian, was born on September 8, 1895 in Harkov, Russia. In 1920, he was employed at Vladivostok in the Intelligence Service of the White Russian Government, "Police Inspection Department of the Ministry of Home Affairs" (Information Section). It is reported that during this time he was arrested on a charge of being a Bolshevic secret agent. However he was released due to the intervention of certain friends and Japanese officials for whom it was suspected he acted as informer.

Balanovsky arrived in Shanghai from Vladivostok on November 25, 1922. On June 27, 1923 he took out a passport through the Russian Emigrants' Committee with the intention of visiting the U.S.A. In 1925 he was found to be residing at a boarding house at No. 9 Dent Road under the nickname of "Serejka Poliak". At that time he cohabited with one V. Borodovsky, Russian Jewess, who was the proprietress of the house. This woman has a doubtful reputation and is reported to be the widow of a well known card-sharper. Her boarding house was frequented by certain known smugglers.

On July 26, 1925 Balanovsky was arrested

FILE

together with a Japanese named Fuginoma at 26 Range Road whilst negotiating the sale of a .25 Cal. automatic pistol.

On August 5, 1925 he appeared before the Mixed Court on a charge of Trafficking in Arms and was fined $100.00 while the Pistol was confiscated. Dr. Fisher, the well known lawyer who represented Soviet Affairs, appeared for Balanovsky.

During his residence in Shanghai, Balanovsky was employed at the following gambling places :- In 1930 with the "Russian United Club", 306 Avenue Foch which was raided and closed by Shanghai Municipal Police on December 20, 1930; in 1931 with the "Polish Club", 100 Route des Soeurs, and later during the same year he was manager and partner of a gambling den owned by one J.B. Cheney, American, at 7 Route de Grouchy. During the period from July to September, 1933 he was reported to be employed as a cashier at a certain gambling den in Apartment 3, 203 Seymour Road, conducted by one Llado, Spanish, and one Dike Neilmayer, Netherlands subject. After the closure of these gambling dens by either Settlement or French Police, Balanovsky claimed to be employed in selling radio sets on a

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

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commission basis. At present he describes himself as a contractor, working on a small scale in house repairing, painting etc. Several years ago he married one Varvara Ivanovna Von Otto who at present resides together with him at Apt. III, Ascot Apartments and works privately at her home as a masseuse.

Copy to

It is reported that during his gambling activities, Balanovsky made a considerable sum of money which allows him to live without fixed employment.

On November 10, 1928 Balanovsky joined the Russian Company, S.V.C. In March, 1933 he was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant, and at present holds the rank of Lieutenant.

L. C. Pavlov
D. S.

A. C. (Special Branch).

SECRET February 20th, 1940.

I should be grateful for any information available concerning one BARONOVSKY who I understand is living at the ASCOT APARTMENTS and who was at one time connected in some way with the Shanghai Municipal Council, possibly as a member of the Russian regiment or the Shanghai Volounteer Corps.

"Y"

D S Pull

G 2000-.33

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
File No. S. B. P. G.
No. D
Date

SECTION 2

REPORT

Date December 12, 1933

Subject (in full) Further report re: S.P.Balanovsky.

Made by D.S.I. Prokofiev. Forwarded by D.S.I. Prokofiev.

Further enquiries regarding S.P.Balanovsky's alleged connection with gambling conducted in Apartment 3, No.203 Seymour Road confirm the information contained in reports submitted by D.S.Tcheremshansky dated September 23 and October 4,1933,respectively.(File D-5272).

Information from three reliable and entirely independent sources indicates that Balanovsky participates in gambling activities at the above address. Moreover,there are good reasons to believe that his connection with the place is not merely that of an occasional visitor,but that he is an employee,if not a member,of the syndicate which conducts gambling for the purpose of gain. It is reported that apart from Dike Neilmayer mentioned in D.S.Tcheremshansky's reports,a certain V.I.Labutin,Russian,who has the reputation of being a professional gambler,is also a member of the gambling syndicate in question.

There seems to be no doubt that Balanovsky was in a similar way connected with the gambling house which was kept by one J.B.Cheney at No 7 Route de Grouchy in 1930-1931.

Photograph of S.P.Balanovsky is attached herewith.

A. Prokofiev
D.S.I.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

S2,
Please show in confidence to Esther Lost. Thomas at the adjutant of the S.V.C.
JHG

Seen by Lost. Thomas at 4.45 p.m. 12/12/33.

File
DEC. 13 1933

DEC. 12 1933.

G. A. 11-11-32

CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

File No.

Section 2,
Special Branch.

Date October 4, 1933.

Subject (in full) Further report re S. P. Balanovsky

Made by D. S. Tcheremshansky Forwarded by

With reference to the endorsement of the Officer i/c Special Branch on the attached report dated 25.9.33 re P. S. Balanovsky (File D.5272), I have to state that he joined the Russian Company, S.V.C., on November 10, 1928, and has since been a member of the above company. In March 1933 he was promoted the rank of Second Lieutenant. During the period of his service with the S.V.C. he was employed at the following gambling places:- In 1930 with the "Russian United Club", No. 306 Avenue Foch which was raided and closed by S.M.P. on December 20, 1930 (File C.2060), in 1931 with the "Polish Club", No. 100 Route des Soeurs, and later during the same year he was manager and partner of a gambling den owned by one J.B. Cheney, American, at No. 7 Route Grouchy (File D.2694). During the period from July to September, 1933, he was reported to be employed as a cashier at a certain gambling den in Apartment 3, No. 203 Seymour Road, conducted by one Liado, Spanish, and one Dike Neilmayer, Netherlands subject.

D. S.

Officer i/c. Special Branch.

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF POLICE (CRIME BRANCH) OCT 5 1933

O. i/c Sp. Br.

OCT. 5 1933

OCT. 9 1933

OCT. 5 1933

Fm. 1

Memorandum.

POLICE FORCE.
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Shanghai, 25.9.1933

To S2,

The contents of the last page would seem to indicate that Balanovsky, while employed in the S.V.C., has acted as assistant in various gambling dens and clubs. Please check and clear up these points.

D.S. Tchernushevitch, JHG
SSR 25/9.

Form No. 2
G. 35m-8-32

CONFIDENTIAL

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
File No. N. D. 5272
Date

S. 2, Special Branch.

REPORT

Date Sept. 25th 1933.

Subject (in full) Sergey Petrovitch Balanovsky alias S. Belanovsky alias S. Belonorsky alias Boolanovsky, Second Lieutenant of the Russian Company S. V. C.

Made by D.S. Tcheremshansky. Forwarded by D.S. Tcheremshansky.

The following information has been received regarding S.P. Balanovsky alias S. Belanovsky alias S. Belonorsky alias Boolanovsky, Second Lieutenant attached to the Russian Company S.V.C. He is a Russian born on September 8, 1898 at Kharkov, South Russia. During the Civil War in Siberia in 1918-1919 he served as an ensign in the ranks of the White Russian Army. In 1920 Balanovsky was employed at Vladivostok in the Intelligence Service of the White Russian Government, "Police Inspection Department of the Ministry of Home Affiars" (Information Section). It is reported that during this time he was arrested on a charge of being a Bolshevik secret agent. However he was released due to the intervention of certain friends and Japanese officials for whom it was suspected he acted as informer.

Balanovsky arrived at Shanghai from Vladivostok on November 22, 1922. On June 27, 1923 he took out a passport through the Russian Emigrants Committee to visit the U.S.A. In 1925 he was found to be residing at a boarding house at No. 9 Dent Road under the nickname of "Seregka Poliak". Here he cohabited with one V. Borodofsky alias Borodovsky, Russian Jewess, who was the proprietress of the house. This woman has a doubtful reputation and is reported to be the widow of a well known card-sharper. Her boarding house was frequented by certain known smugglers (File I.O. 4907).

On July 26, 1925 Balanovsky was arrested together with a Japanese named Fuginoma at No. 26 Range Road whilst negotiating the sale of a .25 Cal. automatic pistol. On July 27, Fuginoma appeared before the Japanese Court and was sentenced to 5 days imprisonment. Balanovsky was charged with trafficking in

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File No.

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(2)

Subject (in full)

Made by Forwarded by

arms and released on $200 bail on July 31. On August 5, 1925 he appeared before the Mixed Court and was fined $100 while the pistol was confiscated (File B.311) Dr. Fisher, the well known lawyer who represents Soviet affairs, appeared for Balanovsky.

During his residence in Shanghai, Balanovsky has been employed with the "Artist Club", No. 9 Yates Road as a clerk; with "Russian United Club", No.306 Avenue Foch, which was closed by the Shanghai Municipal Police and later with the "Polish Club", No.100 Route des Soeurs. It is also reported that he was at one time manager and partner of a gambling den owned by one J.B. Cheney, American (File D-2694) at No.7 Route Grouchy.

For some time in 1932-3 Balanovsky was working as a contractor on a small scale (repair work, paint ng etc.) During the period July-September 1933 he was employed as cashier at a certain secret gambling den conducted by one Liado, Spanish and one Dike Neilmayer, Netherlands subject, in Apartment 3, No.203 Seymour Road. At the present time Balanovsky claim to be employed in selling radio sets on a commission basis.

On November 10, 1928 Balanovsky joined the Russian Company S.V.C., and during March 1933 he was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant.

He resides at No.516 Rue Bourgeat.

G. Cheremchensky.
D. S.

Officer i/c Special Branch.

SEP 23 1933

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY
No. S. B. D. 5272(c)
Date 2 11 40

Dec. 2, 40.

Proposed establishment of a gambling den at Passage 100, House 10, Route de Say Zoong.

On November 25, 1940, information was received from a representative of the Shanghai Land Investment Co., 100 Jinkee Road, to the effect that Lieut. S.P. Balanowsky, Russian Regiment, S.V.C., had on several occasions since November 14, 1940 visited the aforesaid Company's office and attempted to negotiate a lease of House 10, Passage 100, Route de Say Zoong, on behalf of a Japanese, namely Mr. K. Onishi, Manager of Restaurant Tayo Shokudo, "Tiger House" 475-479 North Szechuen Road. Owing to the fact that the house in question is a commodious building, comprising 30 lavishly furnished rooms, the Shanghai Land Investment Co., suspecting that Onishi intended to convert it into a gaming house, instituted confidential enquiries through a Japanese source which indicated that Onishi is connected with local gambling interest and that gambling takes place at Tiger House more or less regularly. In consequence of this information, Balanowsky was informed that another party had an option on the lease and that there was no possibility of his being able to rent the building. Despite this, Balanowsky persistently visited the Company's office and importuned the management to rent the house mentioned, to Onishi, even going to the length of bringing a copy of a certificate of identity from the Japanese Consulate in respect of Onishi and a written [illegible] undertaking not to carry out any

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File No D. 8039[illegible]/41(c)-23

structural alterations on the building (copies attached hereto).

Balanowsky, according to information in possession of the Police, has for many years been connected with the various foreign and Chinese gambling interests in Shanghai; also, he is known to be an agent of one or the local Japanese secret organs. There can be little doubt, therefore, that Balanowsky was acting as an agent of the gambling interests. Information from another source, usually reliable, is to the effect that House 10, Passage 100, Route de Say Zoong, which is the former residence of General Hsiung Shih Hwei (熊式輝), Chairman of Kiangsi Provincial Government, was rented by Li Siao Pao (李筱宝), conductor of Si Yuen Gambling Den, Chung Hwa Road, Old West Gate, and Sih Hung Kee (薛鴻記) Building Contractor, Lane 116, 5 Wuting Road, for the purpose of establishing a gambling house. The plan has, however, been shelved for the time being, owing to the East Asia Dramatic Research Society, a gambling den situated on Rue Amiral Courbet, having been suppressed by the French Police. In this connection it is said that the French Authorities have determined to suppress gambling in the French Concession under any circumstances.